Partnerships with Other Nursing Programs

Del Mar College ADN

Texas A & M University - Corpus Christi

The partnership involves eLine (electronic learning in nursing education), a collaborative agreement with Del Mar College in Corpus Christi. Students can earn a BSN or ADN depending on their goals. The eLine project is a self-paced, modular, competency-based curriculum formulated to decrease the nursing shortage by increasing access to nursing curriculum anytime, anywhere, as students no longer have to be in the classroom.

The clinical portion of the curriculum is based on a preceptor/student model. In this model, students work one-on-one with preceptors in hospitals to accomplish their objectives. Preceptors receive an online orientation to learn about the preceptor role and responsibilities and are able to earn 10 CEUs. There are objectives and skills lists in place to help the preceptor with assignments for the student. Faculty at the university grade all paper work, such as nursing care plans. The hospitals who are participants in eLine throughout the state have had very positive comments.

Approximate cost of implementing and maintaining partnership:

1.6 million, maintaining per year \$400,000

Grant monies used: yes, 1.2 million FIPSE LAPP grant

Expected benefits from partnership:

- allows entry into the nursing profession through an alternate route, thus allowing students to progress at their own timeline
- students who choose the ADN track can transition into the BSN modules seamlessly

Challenges from partnership:

- faculty demands have increased, as many faculty are participating in overload assignment with both eLine and traditional instruction.
- maintaining updates and curriculum changes
- locating preceptors at hospitals around the state. Many facilities have stated that they are already inundated with students from other nursing programs. Some rural hospitals have participated.
- may be difficult to find a masters prepared nurse to supervise the preceptor placement and oversee the clinical experience

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